

5/26/12 1:10:24 PM

C-II Chronology

SI

(NSA?)

--mid-August: arrival of SA-2's in Cuba. (McCone: to protect missiles)

31 August: Keating speech in Senate, claims 1200 Soviet troops and structures suitable for missiles. (Source never identified).

--first week in September, major equipment for missiles arrives.

--4 Sept. Dobrynin assures JFK that weapons in Cuba are purely defensive.
(Directions of K)

--4 Sept. JFK issues statement through Salinger: SAMs have arrived; but buildup is so far defensive. Offensive weapons would have gravest consequences.

--7 Sept. U-2 photos of surface-to-surface missiles; short-range naval coastal defense missiles near Banes. Clines thinks they may be force Oxford further offshore. JFK first thinks them offensive, fears others will interpret that likewise; he demands tight compartmentation. SIGINT is flagged Funnel; this on top of rigid compartmentation for U-2 photos which keeps Juanita Moody, head of B1, Cuban SI, in the dark, with her chief of staff; she learns of U-2 flight of Oct. 14 that morning.

--8 Sept. A U-2 on loan to Chinats is shot down over China. Rusk opposes further U-2 flights over Cuba for fear of diplomatic consequences.

--11 Sept. TASS issues statement that weapons are only defensive.

--11 Sept. (NSA): SU forces go on highest alert since beginning of Cold War; mainly air defense, but also offensive forces. Until Sept. 21.

--19 Sept. NIE: shipment of offensive missiles incompatible with Soviet practice and present estimate of their intentions; it would indicate a far greater willingness to increase the risk in US-Soviet relations than USSR has displayed so far. (McCone is out of town on honeymoon, does not concur).

--early October (date?) crates are interpreted as Il-28s, offensive weapons. (NSA. Is this right? Or was this late September, leading to Oct. 1 JCS meeting?)

--JFK demands this information be suppressed; McCone "stated this was extremely dangerous." (Politically, if it leaked? Failure of analysis?) JFK and McCone agree to distribute info to principals of USIB, who would restrict it to "their personal offices". (Did they? Is this the onset of PSALM? See Cline interview.)

earlier?

--9 Oct. McCone has persisted in asking for U-2 flights to be resumed; JFK authorizes on Oct. 9. But bad weather, until 14 October. *What if...*

--14 Oct. U-2 flies over western Cuba, photos missiles

--15 October: **SU in preliminary stages of alert**: NSA: "likely, K's supposition of discovery of missiles." [Local commanders believed they had been photographed; the photos were being interpreted at NPIC on the 15th.]

--18 October: JFK --Gromyko.

--22 Oct. JFK speech (earlier, tells Congress)

--22 Oct. SU on extraordinarily high alert, equal to Sept. 11. Offensive forces do not go on alert, presumably to reassure JFK. Staging bases are prepared, but bombers do not deploy. PVO on highest alert.

--early morning Oct. 23, Moscow signals a message coming to all ships headed for Cuba; sent one hour later. Late that day, direction-finding intell indicates some Soviet ships have stopped dead in water, others turned around. McCone awakened in the middle of the night with info. But it is not sent to White House or SecDef; ONI wants to "confirm" it before reporting it. It isn't reported to them until about noon, Oct. 24. McNamara is furious and subjects Admiral Anderson to an abusive tirade. (NSA; Brugioni).

2nd? or 1st?